

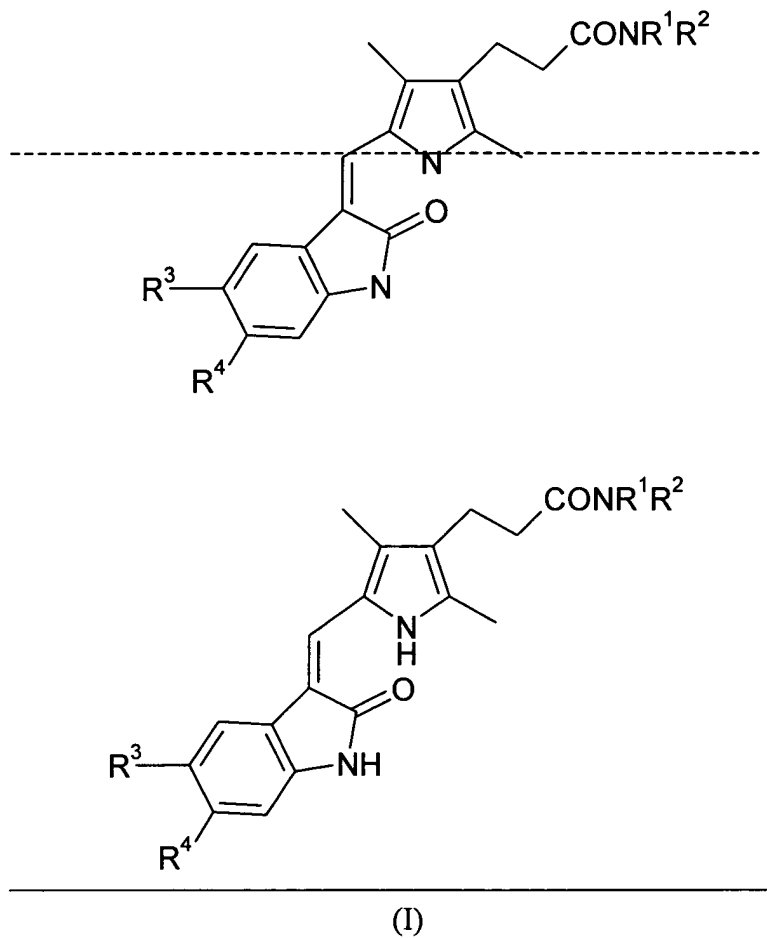
Amendments to the Specification

P lease amend the paragraph on page 1, lines 5-8, under the heading "Cross Reference to Related Applications", as follows:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/327,385, filed December 20, 2002, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/343,746, filed December 27, 2001 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/343,813, filed December 27, 2001, the entire disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 17-20 as follows:

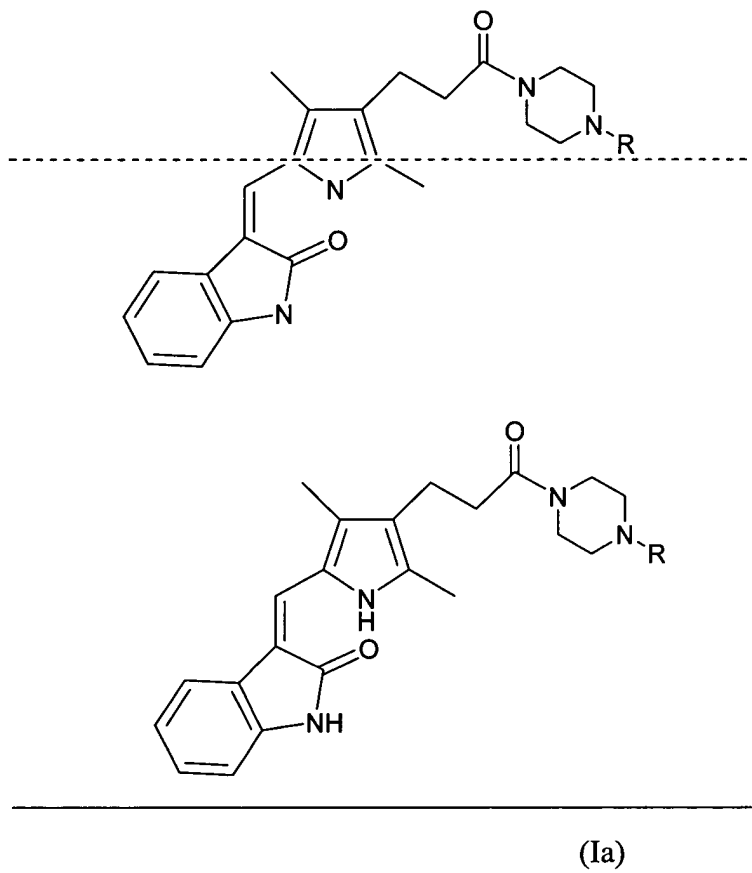
Accordingly, the present invention provides a compound of formula (I):



in which:

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, lines 24-27 as follows:

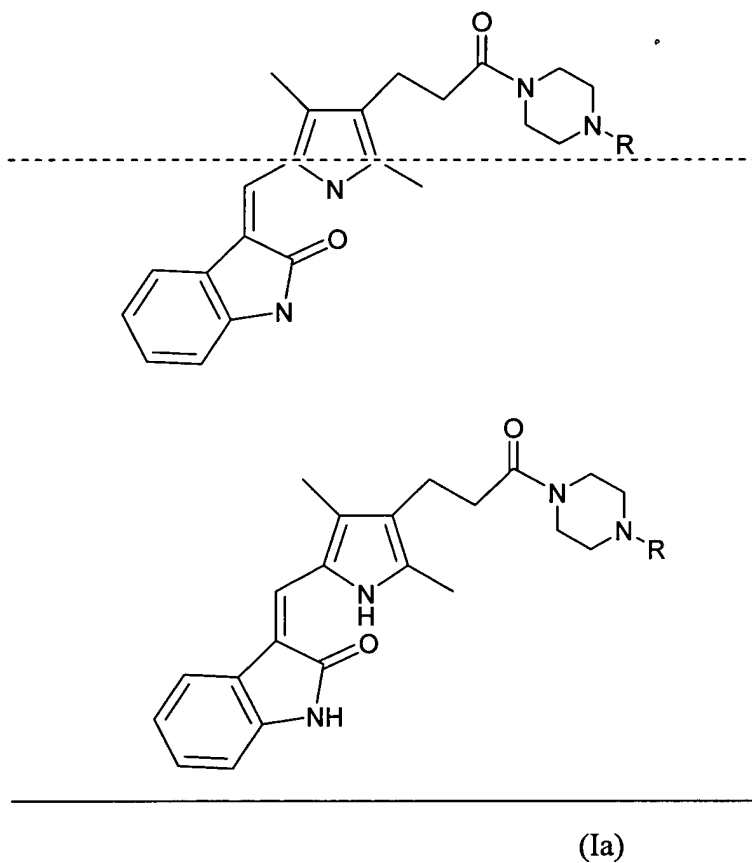
The invention also provides compounds of formula (Ia):



wherein R is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl;

Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 23-26 as follows:

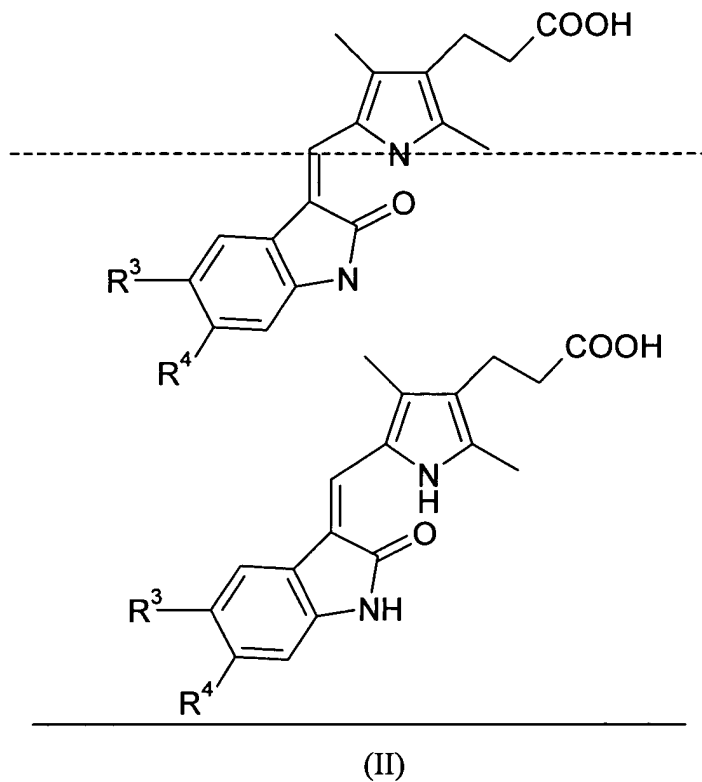
A particularly preferred sub-group of compounds of formula (I) are compounds of formula (Ia):



wherein R is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl, and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts thereof.

Please amend the paragraph on page 9, lines 22-25 as follows:

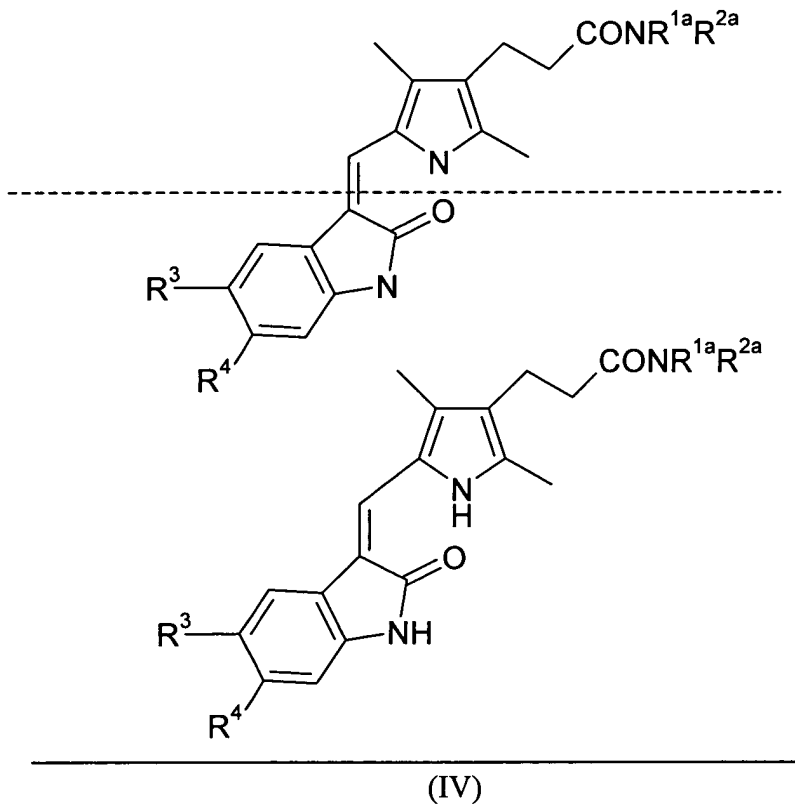
(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



or a reactive derivative thereof, with a compound of formula (III)

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, lines 2-8 as follows:

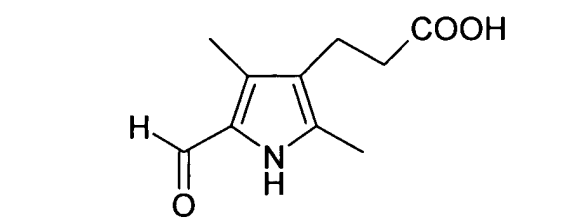
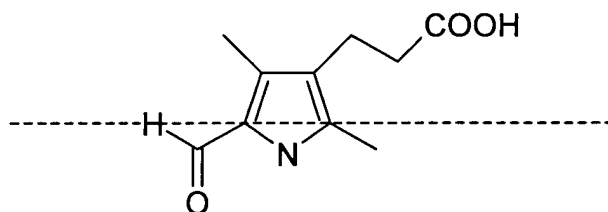
(b) for a compound of formula (I) in which R^5 or R^7 represents a hydrogen atom, deprotecting a compound of formula (IV)



in which R^{1a} and R^{2a} are as defined hereinabove for R^1 and R^2 , except in that R^5 or R^7 is replaced with a group R^{5a} or R^{7a} respectively, in which R^{5a} and R^{7a} each represents an amine protecting group, and R^3 and R^4 are as defined hereinabove;

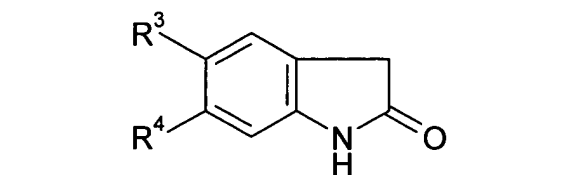
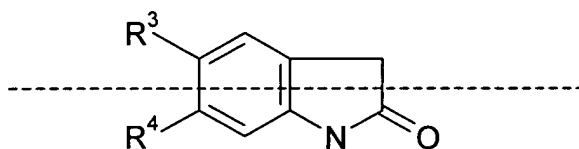
Please amend the paragraph at page 11, lines 10-16 as follows:

Compounds of formula (II) are known, for example from WO 99/61422. They may also be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VI)



(VI)

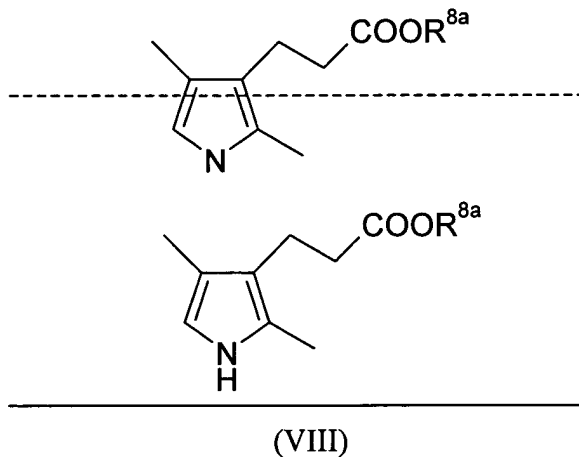
with a compound of formula (VII)



(VII)

Please amend the paragraph at page 11, lines 20-26 as follows:

Compounds of formula (VI) may be prepared by reacting a compound of formula (VIII)



in which R^{8a} represents a carboxyl protecting group, for example a (1-6C)alkyl group such as methyl, with phosphorus oxychloride and dimethylformamide, followed by removal of the protecting group R^{8a} , for example by alkali hydrolysis.